

# ***“Where did that claim come from?”***

In 2001, researchers at the University of Pennsylvania, School of Social work and Center for the Study of Youth Policy, Richard J. Estes and Neil Alan Weiner conducted a study to see how pervasive the sexual exploitation of children was, in the age of globalization and increasing travel. The study was of *JUVENILES*, and **did NOT include anyone over the age of 18.** Generally, people over 18 are not considered juveniles any longer, despite their inclusion in the prostitution abolitionist framework.

## **The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children In the U. S., Canada and Mexico**

### Executive Summary (Of the U.S. National Study)

The purpose of the study? *“The benefits of economic globalization, internationalization, and free trade have brought with them an unanticipated set of social problems. Among them is what appears to be a dramatic rise worldwide in the incidence of child exploitation. Among the most virulent forms of this exploitation is child sexual exploitation (hereafter “CSE”)—including their commercial sexual exploitation of children (hereafter “CSEC”). Child pornography, juvenile prostitution and trafficking in children for sexual purposes have emerged as significant problems on the national, regional, and international stages. So, too, has child sex tourism. CSE and the CSEC appear to be related in complex ways with other forms of child exploitation, such as the use of children in labor, drug and warfare settings.”*

Wouldn't the fact that it was a study of **JUVENILE PROSTITUTES** and **NOT OF ALL PROSTITUTES** be a rather important detail to mention when talking about this issue? Why leave it out if your motives are pure? Because there aren't enough juvenile prostitutes to generate the vast amounts of money that claims of *‘protecting the children’* generate? Any rational person could see that the ***average age of entry into prostitution*** cannot be 12 or 13 or 14, unless, at the lower end, the unfertilized eggs and sperm of couples who have NOT YET MET were being ‘prostituted.’

**Is the Average Age Of Entry Into Sex Trafficking Between 12 and 14?** Asks journalist Janie Har in her March 2nd, 2013 article in the Oregonian PolitiFact.com. She rated the statement ‘half true,’ although where I come from, something is either true or it isn't. Are there 12 to 14 years olds - and younger- who are ‘trafficked into prostitution’? Yes. But that is NOT the ‘average age of entry’ into prostitution, no matter how you slice it.

The following page contains a significant quotation of her article and links to some of the persons who responded to her query. **Regardless of how you view PolitiFact, you are highly encouraged to read the entire article and visit the links she provided:**

<http://www.politifact.com/oregon/statements/2013/mar/02/diane-mckeel/Is-average-age-entry-sex-trafficking-between-12-an/>

**“What about the children?”**